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DEPARTMENT FOR S/CT AND ARA/BSC

FBI FOR INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM SECTION

E.A. 12958: DECL: 10/30/07

JAGS: PTER, PREL, AR

SUBJECT: GOA REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ISLAMIC JIHAD

REF: BUENOS AIRES 5331

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 05547 311809Z

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED DATE/CASE ID: 17 NOV 2009 200705645

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CLASSIFIED BY V. MANUEL ROCHA, CHARGE. REASON: 1.5

(B,D) .

- 1. (U) SEE ACTION REQUEST IN PARAGRAPH SIX.
- 2. (U) THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A DIPLOMATIC NOTE FROM THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTRY COVERING A REQUEST FROM THE ARGENTINE SUPREME COURT ASKING FOR "ALL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION CALLED 'ISLAMIC JIHAD' (SUCH AS ITS ORIGIN, STRUCTURE, ORGANIZATION, ANTECEDENTS, RELATIONS WITH OTHER GROUPS, AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION OF INTEREST." THIS IS THE NOTE THAT A SUPREME COURT OFFICIAL HAD TOLD US WE WOULD BE RECEIVING (SEE REFTEL).
- 3. (SBU) WE SPOKE AGAIN ON OCTOBER 30 WITH SUPREME COURT INVESTIGATOR ESTEBAN CANEVARI (RESPONSIBLE FOR INVESTIGATING THE 1992 BOMBING OF THE ISRAELI EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES) WHO SAID THIS INFORMATION IS TO BE USED IN THE OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATION TO HELP EXPLAIN TO THE PUBLIC HOW ISLAMIC JIHAD OPERATES AND WHO IS ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS ACTIONS. WE ASKED IF HE HAD MADE A SIMILAR REQUEST TO GERMANY AS IT HAD RECENTLY COMPLETED THE "MYKONOS" CASE WHICH HAD SHED MUCH LIGHT ON THE INNER WORKINGS OF IRANIAN-BACKED TERRORISM. HE SAID THAT HE HAD DONE SO AND EXPECTED A RESPONSE FROM BONN IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HOWEVER, HE HOPED THAT INFORMATION FROM THE USG WOULD BE MORE DETAILED AND THUS PROVIDE A BETTER BASIS FOR HIS INVESTIGATION.

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PAGE 03

BUENOS 05547 311809Z

4. (C) RECENTLY THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL RELATED REQUESTS FOR THE SAME OR SIMILAR USG INFORMATION. THE STATE INTELLIGENCE SECRETARIAT (SIDE) HAS ASKED US FOR THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON ISLAMIC JIHAD AND HIZBOLLAH: WHAT ATTACKS HAS EITHER GROUP CLAIMED AND HOW MANY HAVE BEEN PROVEN TO HAVE BEEN COMMITTED BY THEM; WHAT IS THE FORM AND METHOD OF ADJUDICATING RESPONSIBILITY IN THESE CASES AND DO THEY

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HAVE THE SAME CHARACTERISTICS; ANY DOCUMENTATION OR OTHER EVIDENCE WHICH WAS USED TO PROVE RESPONSIBILITY; AND, ANY OTHER INFORMATION OF INTEREST. THEY LATER ADDED A FURTHER REQUEST THAT WE PROVIDE INFORMATION ON WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN ANY COURT CASES REGARDING TERRORIST ATTACKS BY EITHER GROUP AND, IF SO, WHERE THEY HAD BEEN, WHO LED THE INVESTIGATIONS, AND WHAT THE RESULTS WERE.

- 5. (SBU) IN THE RELATED CASE OF THE TERRORIST BOMBING OF THE AMIA JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, INVESTIGATING JUDGE JUAN GALEANO HAS ASKED THE EMBASSY VIA DIPLOMATIC NOTE FOR INFORMATION THE FBI MIGHT HAVE ON SEVERAL OF THE PEOPLE SUSPECTED OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE CRIME.
- 6. (SBU) ACTION REQUEST: IN THE WAKE OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES AND HIS WELL PUBLICIZED MEETING WITH LEADERS OF THE LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF VICTIMS OF BOTH ATTACKS, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE RESPOND TO THIS REQUEST IN A TIMELY FASHION. WE ARE AWARE THAT USG AGENCIES HAVE PROVIDED SIMILAR INFORMATION IN THE PAST. HOWEVER, BOTH CANEVARI AND CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 BUENOS 05547 311809Z
GALEANO BELIEVE THEY CANNOT USE MOST OF IT DUE TO ITS
CLASSIFICATION. WE ASK THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES
PROVIDE US WITH AS MUCH UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION AS
POSSIBLE ALONG THE LINES REQUESTED BY THE GOA. ROCHA